Table of Contents

Certification	
Acknowledgement	
Abstract	
Table of Contents	
List of Tables	
List	of Figures
List of Abbreviations	
Chapter 1: General Introduction 1-31	
1.1	Introduction
1.2	Clinical infestations and outbreaks
1.3	Diagnosis and treatment of E. cloacae infections
1.4	Emergence of antibiotic resistance in E. cloacae
1.5	Virulence determinants of E. cloacae
1.6	Bacterial Secretion systems
1.7	Type VI secretion system (T6SS)
1.8	Genetic organization of T6SS
1.9	Structural framework of T6SS
1.10	Regulatory pathways and environmental signals of T6SS
1.11	Different regulators of T6SS across bacterial species
1.12	Function of T6SS
1.13	T6SS effectors targeted into eukaryotic cells
1.14	:
1.15	Model organism for studying pathogenesis:
1.16	Gaps in Existing research
1.17	Objectives
Chapter 2: Elucidating the pathogenic potential of <i>E. cloacae</i> SBP-8 using <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i> as a model host.	
2.1	Introduction
2.2	Materials and methods
2.3	Results
2.4	Discussion
Chapter 3: Studying the systemic dissemination of <i>E. cloacae</i> SBP-8 during infection in mammalian (murine) model host 52-69	
3.1	Introduction
3.2	Material and methods

- 3.3 Results
- 3.4 Discussion

Chapter 4: To characterize the T6SS of *E. cloacae* SBP-8 and its role in pathogenesis and competition 70-92

- 4.1 Introduction
- 4.2 Materials and methods
- 4.3 Results and discussions
- 4.4 Discussion

Chapter 5: Conclusion and Future Scope

93-96

References 97-112

Appendices

Appendix I: List of Publications

Appendix II: Brief Biography of the Supervisor, Co- supervisor and Candidate

Prints of Publication